

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 07931 131418Z
ACTION SNM-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 CTME-00 TRSE-00 ICA-11 NSC-05
OES-07 OMB-01 /063 W
-----096593 131419Z /72
P 130105Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0217

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 07931

EO 11652: XGDS
TAGS: SNAR, MX
SUBJECT: NARCOTICS - USE OF DYE TO MARK SPRAYED MARI-
JUANA

1. DURING CALL ON CHARGE MAY 12, ATTORNEY GENERAL'S EXECUTIVE OFFICER, FERNANDO BAEZA, SAID THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL FLORES HAD INSTRUCTED HIM TO ASK IF THE EMBASSY COULD EXTEND ITS CONTRACT WITH "JOHN FORD AND HIS PEOPLE" TO PARTICIPATE IN TEST OF RHODAMINE B. BAEZA SAID FLORES WAS IMPRESSED BY THE HIGH DEGREE OF COMPETENCE DISPLAYED BY THIS GROUP AND ADDED THAT FLORES HAS IMPLICIT TRUST IN THEM. (FYI: IN MEETING WITH FLORES MAY 11, FLORES ALSO EXPRESSED WISH THAT USG WOULD PERMIT FORD TO RETURN FOR FUTURE ERADICATION PROGRAM EVALUATIONS ON A REGULAR BASIS.)

2. CHARGE REPLIED THAT HE AGREED THAT FORD AND HIS PEOPLE COULD BE AN IMPORTANT ASSET TO THE GOM DURING THIS TEST, BUT THAT HE DID NOT KNOW IF THEY WOULD BE AVAILABLE OR IF WE HAD SUFFICIENT FUNDS FOR THIS PURPOSE. HE AGREED TO OBTAIN ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS AND INFORM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL PROMPTLY.

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PAGE 02 MEXICO 07931 131418Z

3. COMMENT: FORD'S CONTRACT HAS EXPIRED, AND HE HAS ALREADY LEFT MEXICO. CONTRACT IN ANY CASE DID NOT INCLUDE PROVISION FOR OPERATIONAL ACTIVITY ALTHOUGH FORD, AS FAVOR TO GOM, DID IN FACT CONDUCT LIMITED DYE TEST. IN VIEW OF LENGTHY TIME REQUIRED TO FINALIZE NEW CONTRACT OR AMEND OLD CONTRACT, WE SUGGEST THAT WE TELL

BAEZA THAT WE HAVE NO FUNDS APPROVED FOR USG CONTRACT FOR THIS PURPOSE. INSTEAD, WE RECOMMEND THAT WE TELL BAEZA THAT CONTRACTING OF FORD FOR DYE TEST IS A SERVICE WHICH FALLS WITHIN MEANING OF FIELD SUPPORT FUND AGREEMENT AND THAT USG IS PREPARED TO REIMBURSE GOM FOR ANY CONTRACT IT MAY SIGN WITH FORD FOR THE DYE TEST. THIS HAS FURTHER ADVANTAGE OF POSITIONING FORD AS A GOM EMPLOYEE AND WOULD PERMIT HIM TO BUY AND MIX DYE ON BEHALF OF GOM, AS WELL AS GIVE HIM GREATER AUTHORITY IN FIELD.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT DEPARTMENT CONCUR IN USE OF FIELD SUPPORT FUND FOR GOM CONTRACT WITH FORD, WHICH WOULD INCLUDE PURCHASE OF DYE FOR INITIAL TEST. ESTIMATED COST OF DYE FOR 30-DAY PERIOD IS \$5,000. THOMPSON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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